

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From: INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINING AUTHORITY

PCT

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NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT
(Rule 71.1 PCT)

Date of mailing
(day/month/year) 30.08.2005

Applicant's or agent's file reference

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No. International filing date (day/month/year) Priority date (day/month/year)
PCT/EP2004/008157 21.07.2004 22.09.2003

Applicant
SIEMENS AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT et al.

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.

4. REMINDER

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices (Article 39(1)) (see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

The applicant's attention is drawn to Article 33(5), which provides that the criteria of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability described in Article 33(2) to (4) merely serve the purposes of international preliminary examination and that "any Contracting State (...) may apply additional or different criteria for the purposes of deciding whether, in that State, the claimed invention is patentable or not" (see also Article 27(5)). Such additional criteria may relate, for example, to exemptions from patentability, requirements for enabling disclosure, clarity and support for the claims.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA	Authorized officer
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10/572897

IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 21 MAR 2006

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(Article 36 and Rule 70 PCT)

Applicant's or agent's file reference FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416
2003P13387WO

International application No. International filing date (*day/month/year*) Priority date (*day/month/year*)
PCT/EP2004/008157 21.07.2004 22.09.2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC
H04L 12/28, H04L 29/06

Applicant
SIEMENS AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT et al.

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.
3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising
 - a. (*sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau*) a total of 11 sheets, as follows:
 - sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
 - sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
 - b. (*sent to the International Bureau only*) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)), containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
 - I Basis of the report
 - II Priority
 - III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - IV Lack of unity of invention
 - V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability, citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - VI Certain documents cited
 - VII Certain defects in the international application
 - VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
12.07.2005	30.08.2005
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Box No. I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on:
 - the international application in the language in which it was filed
 - a translation of the international application into , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
 - international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b))
 - publication of the international application (Rule 12.4(a))
 - international preliminary examination (Rules 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))
2. With regard to the **elements*** of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

Constituent parts of the international application (*replacement sheets furnished to the office of application following a request under Article 14 shall be deemed in the context of this report to have been "originally filed" and are not annexed to it, because they do not contain any amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

Description, pages:

1-3, 10-13 in the version as originally filed/furnished
4-9, 9a received by this Authority on 15.07.2005 with cover letter dated 11.07.2005

Patent claims, No.:

1-8 received by this Authority on 15.07.2005 with cover letter dated 11.07.2005

Drawings, sheets:

1/4-4/4 in the version as originally filed/furnished

- a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
- 3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
 - the description, pages
 - the claims, Nos.
 - the drawings, sheets/figs
 - the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):
- 4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
 - the description, pages
 - the claims, Nos.
 - the drawings, sheets/figs
 - the sequence listing (*specify*):
 - any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*):

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY**

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/008157

Box No. V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statements

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes:	Claims	1-8
	No:	Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes:	Claims	1-8
	No:	Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes:	Claims	1-8
	No:	Claims	

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

see Supplementary sheet

1. The invention relates to a method for managing a group of network access servers (independent claim 1) and a network access server which includes means for linking into a group of network access servers (independent claim 7). The method and the server are used with the aid of the "Multichassis Multilink Point-to-Point Protocol" (MMP).

2. Prior art:

Document D1 (XP002300000) is regarded as the nearest prior art, which defines a "stack group" in a "Multichassis Multilink Point-to-Point Protocol" (MMP) environment. The "stack group" corresponds to the "address list" according to the preamble of the independent claims. According to D1, an administrator can manage this list by adding further entries individually with the aid of a command line interface (CLI) or by removing entries.

3. Difference:

The subject matter of the independent claims differs from the teaching of document D1 in that according to the invention

- when a new network access server logs on, a first message is sent from the new server to the other servers of this group,
- the network access servers of this group store the address of the new server in an address list and send a second message to the new network access server in each case,
- the second messages are received and used by the new network access server for creating and storing an address list of all servers in this group.

3. Problem:

The invention addresses the problem of simplifying the configuration of the address list.

4. Solution:

According to the features of the two-part form of the claims, the servers in a group independently exchange messages in order to keep the address list updated. Therefore an administrator does not have to maintain the list manually in each individual server.

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY (Supplementary Sheet)**

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/008157

There is no indication in the prior art, in particular in D1, which would prompt the person skilled in the art to implement a method or a network access server according to the independent claims.